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February 9, 2006

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND  
RECORD OF TELEPHONE INTERVIEW**

**VIA FIRST CLASS U.S. MAIL**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: Serial No.: 10/649,997  
Inventor: Mori, et al.  
Title: Universal Serial Bus Hub and Method of Manufacturing  
Same  
Filed: August 26, 2003  
Attorney Docket No.: 0172097

Dear Sir/Madam:

This letter provides a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, and a record of a telephone interview between the responsible US Patent and Trademark Office Examiners and Applicants' counsel that occurred on February 9, 2006.

Enclosed herewith for filing in the above-identified application are the following:

1. This Letter (3 pgs.);
2. Form PTO/SB/08a listing 20 US patents and patent applications and three Japanese patent applications (2 pgs);
3. Form PTO/SB/08b listing three Internet Publications (1 pg);
4. Copies of the Japanese patent applications listed on form PTO/SB/08a (56 pgs);
5. Copies of the Internet Publications listed Form PTO/SB/08b (7 pgs);
6. Check 2000 in the amount of \$180.00; and

**Bryan Cave LLP**  
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*And Bryan Cave,  
A Multinational Partnership,  
London*

537302.1/0172097

7. Self-addressed, prepaid postcard to acknowledge receipt of these documents.

Applicants request that the references identified and enclosed herein be considered by the Patent Office before issuance of the next action and made of record in this file. The Examiner is asked to initial and return a copy of the enclosed Forms PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b to provide evidence of such consideration.

This information disclosure statement includes several Japanese published patent applications which are in Japanese except for the abstracts. Applicants' knowledge of the relevance of these Japanese applications is based primarily on to the information revealed by the abstracts and the drawings. Publication number 2001-306181, specifically, mentions USB receptacle 12 on surface 23a and a plurality of USB receptacles 12 on the surface along the vertical direction. A computer-generated English translation of this patent application is also provided. This information disclosure statement also includes several documents printed from the Internet. These documents are short, and any of the pages may be relevant.

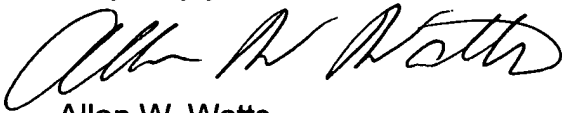
Further, Applicants wish to thank Examiner Hung T. Nguyen and Supervisor I.B. Patel for the courtesy extended to Applicants counsel in a telephone interview conducted on February 9, 2006 before this letter was sent. In that conversation, Applicants' counsel explained some of the advantages of the Applicants' USB port hub and the Applicants concern about on-going infringement by at least one competitor. Applicants' counsel explained that he had just obtained the results of a search that he had recently ordered from an outside search firm, and that Applicants would be submitting a supplemental information disclosure statement in the near future. Further, it was acknowledged that any agreement made in this conversation would be contingent upon the Examiner(s) reviewing the art that was to be submitted in the IDS. With that being said, Applicants' counsel offered to cancel claim 1 and rewrite the dependent claims thereon in independent form, each with all of the limitations of claim 1. Applicants' counsel also offered to pay the additional fees that would be required due to the increased number of independent claims resulting from the proposed claim amendment. At first, Applicants' counsel offered to submit a claim amendment as the next course of action, but after discussing this with the Examiners, it was decided that it would be best for the Examiners to review the art cited in the forthcoming IDS first, and then possibly enter an Examiner's amendment. The Examiners said they would look mainly at claim 2, but would keep in mind the other independent claims that would result from the amendment proposed by Applicants' counsel. Without making a commitment regarding the art yet to be submitted, Examiner Patel said that the proposed claim amendment would be sufficient to overcome the previously considered art, at least with respect to claim 2.

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February 9, 2006  
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Bryan Cave LLP

If the above mentioned check is missing or insufficient, or if any other fees are due, we hereby authorize the Commissioner to charge any necessary fee resulting from this filing (or deposit any overpayment) to Deposit Account No. 02-4467.

Very truly yours,

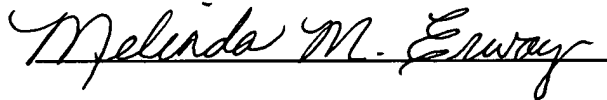


Allan W. Watts  
AWW/me  
Enclosure

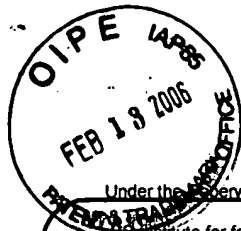
**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this document (and any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is on **February 9, 2006** being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Trademarks, P.O. Box 1451, Alexandria, VA 22313-1451.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any trademark registration issued thereon.



Printed Name: Melinda M. Erway



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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 3

PTO/SB/08a (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Complete if Known

Application Number	10/649,997
Filing Date	August 26, 2003
First Named Inventor	Kenneth Mori
Art Unit	2841
Examiner Name	Nguyen, Hung Thanh
Attorney Docket Number	0172097

### U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US- 2005/0282417 A1	12/22/2005	Tsao	
		US- 6,983,341 B1	01/03/2006	Lim et al.	
		US- 6,722,917 B2	04/20/2004	Huang	
		US- 6,609,928 B1	08/26/2003	Le	
		US- 5,772,456	06/30/1998	Tan et al.	
		US- 6,669,513 B2	12/30/2003	Huang	
		US- 2003/0225954 A1	12/04/2003	WU	
		US- D500,497 S	01/04/2005	Yu et al.	
		US- Des.416,007	11/02/1999	Cavello	
		US- Des.421,962	03/28/2000	Varga	
		US- D510,091 S	09/27/2005	Mori et al.	
		US- D512,718 S	12/13/2005	Mori et al.	
		US- 6,141,221	10/31/2000	Tong et al.	
		US- 6,331,938 B1	12/18/2001	Hsieh et al.	
		US- 6,349,036 B1	02/19/2002	Chang et al.	
		US- 6,650,549 B1	11/18/2003	Chiao	
		US- 6,669,513 B2	12/30/2003	Huang	
		US- 6,607,408 B2	08/19/2003	Milan	

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		JP 2000-120968 2001-306181	04/21/2000	Yoshida Noboru	Abstract, Drawings	
		JP 2000-171141 2001-102136	06/07/2000	Nishio Atsushi	Abstract, Drawings	
		JP 2003-021041 2004-234254	01/29/2003	Nishikawa Seiichi	Abstract, Drawings	

Examiner  
Signature

Date  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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<p>Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.</p> <p>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO</p> <p><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b></p> <p><i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p>			<b>Complete if Known</b>		
			Application Number	10/649,997	
			Filing Date	August 26, 2003	
			First Named Inventor	Kenneth Mori	
			Art Unit	2841	
			Examiner Name	Nguyen, Hung Thanh	
			Attorney Docket Number	0172097	
Sheet	2	of	3		

[illegible][illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet	3	of	3
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**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/649.997
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Art Unit	2841
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Examiner Name	Nguyen. Hung Thanh
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Attorney Docket Number	0172097
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## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner  
Initials\*Cite  
No<sup>1</sup>

Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

 $T^2$ 

Kensington USB 2.0 Dome Hub 02/03/2006 33118 [www.target.com](http://www.target.com)

China (Mainland) USB Hub 2.0 02/03/2006 JCE-364 222.alibaba.com

Value USB 2.0 Dome Hub 4 Port 02/03/2006 www.mercateo.com

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